

FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: April 14, 2017

Agenda Item: Duck Creek Bay on Fort Peck Reservoir No Wake Administrative Rule

Division: Enforcement

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 Min

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Background: In 2016, a petition was received for a no wake restriction in Duck Creek Bay located on Fort Peck Reservoir. The proposal restricts Duck Creek Bay to no wake motorized boating starting near the mouth of the bay. The petition references concern for safety and property damage, as the area has a boat ramp and camping area and is becoming increasingly more popular.

Public Involvement Process & Results: FWP's public comment period for this proposal ran for 29 days and ended on February 17. A public hearing was also held at the Fort Peck Hatchery meeting room on February 16, at which 14 members of the public attended. A total of 4 comments were received regarding this proposed rule change, 2 comments were in favor, 1 was opposed and the fourth did not state an opinion for or against.

Alternatives and Analysis: The Commission can adopt or not adopt the rule. If the Commission doesn't adopt the rule, the area will remain as it currently is without a no wake zone. If the Commission adopts the rule as proposed, the Duck Creek Bay will be limited to a no wake zone as marked by buoys.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale: The department recommends the Commission adopt the rule as proposed. The rationale for the department's position is this part of Ft. Peck Lake has seen a substantial increase in motorized boating use in recent years. For the interests of public health, public safety, and public welfare, the department recommends the Commission adopt the rule as proposed, limiting Duck Creek Bay to a no wake zone as buoyed.

Proposed Motion: I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the administrative rule as proposed limiting Duck Creek Bay to a no wake zone as buoyed.